

## **Historic, Archive Document**

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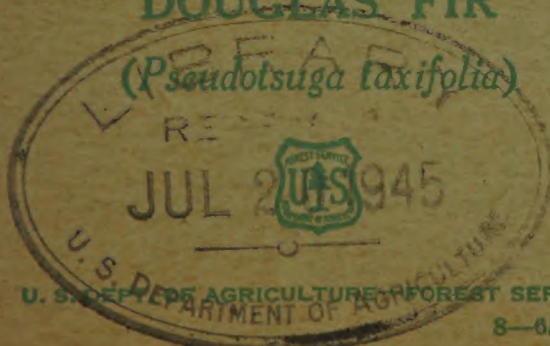


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Reserve



DOUGLAS FIR

(*Pseudotsuga taxifolia*)



U. S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE - FOREST SERVICE

8-6587



# BOOK MARK

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## DOUGLAS FIR (*Pseudotsuga taxifolia*)

Douglas fir constitutes about ten per cent of the total stand of the Southwestern Forests, and is one of the important commercial trees. It is found chiefly in mixture with other species between the pine and the spruce zones at altitudes of from 8,000 to 9,000 feet.

It is more durable than Western yellow pine and equally strong. It rarely exceeds 5 feet in diameter or 125 feet in height in the Southwest.

### *How Douglas Fir may be identified:*

**Needles:** Dark, yellow-green, flat, and obtusely pointed,  $\frac{3}{4}$  to  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inches long, usually persistent until their eighth year; arranged singly on the stem.

**Cones:** Two to three inches long in the Southwest. The most distinctive characteristic is a narrow, three-pointed membrane or bract projecting beyond the cone scales. No other tree in the Southwest has these bracts. (See illustration.)

**Seed:** Light reddish from above and paler with irregular white spots below almost as long as their dark brown wings which measure slightly over one-fourth inch in length.

**Bark:** Dark gray-brown on young growth, becoming dark red-brown; on old trees the bark is from 3 to 5 inches thick in the Southwest and Rocky Mountain region.

**Uses:** Especially for construction timbers and for fuel, railway ties, and piles.

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### PREVENT DAMAGE TO THE FOREST—IT PAYS

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*For information regarding the National Forests, ask the forest ranger, or write to the District Forester of Albuquerque, New Mexico.*